3

Matcha Made in Heaven

UMEBACHI YAMANAKA

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Characters

Jin Negishi

Son of the owner of Negishi-en, the tea farm situated next to Hananoki-en. He's Chako's childhood friend and too friendly with women.

Yabuki Hananoki

This is Chako's brother. The tea farm needs all the money it can get, so he writes novels on the side.

Isshin Kazashi

A live-in tea maker at Hananoki-en. He's quiet, unfriendly, and a bit acerbic, but he's really passionate about tea.

Chako Hananoki

After running away from her ex-fiancé, she returned to her parents' tea farm. She's strong-willed and has a rivalry with Isshin.

Futaba Hananoki

Daughter of Chako's brother, Yabuki. She's lost her mother. She isn't shy around new people, and took to Chako.

Synopsis

At 28 years old, Chako Hananoki returns to her parents' tea farm for the first time in four years, and, much to her surprise, it wasn't her brother, Yabuki, she found making tea as usual… but a strange man named Isshin. Somehow Chako ended up as a fake married couple with him. At first, they argued with each other all the time, but Chako is catching feelings for Isshin as she learns of his stubborn and passionate personality. That's when a man came to Hananoki-en and proposed a wedding plan project to them. Though Isshin wasn't keen on it, Chako did everything she could for the project. However, the company which planned the project went bankrupt right after Chako finished making the gift for the guests and when everyone was excited…

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9th Cup Connected by Tea

PILED

RUSTLE

ON BOX: CELEBRATION

IT WAS LIKE ME, DAD, ISSHIN, AND YOU, RIGHT?!

...MADE WITH EVERYONE'S HOPES.

I'M SURE THERE WILL BE SUR-PLUS...

THIS IS THE PRODUCT ...

I JUST WANTED TO DO SOME-THING TO SUPPORT ISSHIN-SAN.

I WOULD HAVE NEVER IMAGINED...

...THEY'D GO BANKRUPT AND RUN AWAY.

HOW DID THINGS END UP THIS WAY...?

SIGH はぁ…

CLANK カチャ…

SNACKS...

OH, NO!

ｻｽｻｽ SST ...

WHAT?! NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL...! I JUST... WELL... SNACKS! I HAD SOME SNACKS...!

YOU'RE DONE? ARE YOU TOO TIRED TO EAT...?

COOKIES ?!

oh.

I... I WAS THINKING OF...

...BAKING COOKIES WITH YOU, SO I WAS PRACTICING...

...YUP.

CAN WE?! CHAKO, YOU'RE DONE WITH YOUR BUSY WORK?!

SURE!

CAN WE PLAY WITH WATER GUNS IN THE BATH?!

THEN, CAN WE TAKE A BATH TOGETHER TODAY?!

WEB MARKETING FOR BEGINNERS

しっかり稼げる WEB集客術

5 WAYS TO MAKE GOOD MONEY WEB MARKETING

...

SQUEE

I can't wait!

SQUEE

LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN KEEP UP WITH ME!

INCREASE ONLINE SALES 100-FOLD

RATTLE
RATTLE

HOW-TO MANAGE AN ONLINE STORE

To Isshin
Eat a lot

RATTLE
RATTLE

...YOU'RE AWAKE?

...

...FUTABA-CHAN AND I MADE THOSE.

EAT THEM IF YOU'D LIKE...

...

...

ABOUT THAT COMPANY...

HEY...

...I WAS SILLY.

THOUGH HANANOKI-EN MIGHT HAVE TO CLOSE DOWN IN THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO...

I'M CAUSING PROBLEMS.

...THINKING BACK, THERE WERE SO MANY SUSPICIOUS THINGS.

YOU WERE RIGHT, ISSHIN-SAN...

I'M SORRY...!

HEY!

DSH

WATCH OUT!!

?!

ちが

FLICKER

THUD

drip

drip

I...

I'LL GET U-

...I'M SORRY.

PULL

?

WHAT?

WHAT...?!

...AGREED TO THE IDEA.

WHY...?

...I ALSO...

...I LEFT IT TO YOU 'CAUSE I TRUSTED YOU.

...THE GIFT WAS GREAT.

...IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.

WHAT A SERIOUS LOOK...

I'VE GOT THIS.

HUG

ギュッ

EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT.

HE'S ALWAYS GENUINE.

THAT'S RIGHT.

YOU'RE NOT TAKING IT SERIOUSLY, HUH?

YOU MUST BE THINKING IT'S SOMETHING YOU'LL DO UNTIL YOU GET MARRIED.

I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.

HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS.

AL-WAYS.

WHAT MATTERS IS YOU, RIGHT?

YOU WANNA DO IT YOURSELF?!

NEGISHI-EN

根岸園

YES.

OF COURSE, IT WON'T BE AS HIGH QUALITY AS THE WEDDING COMPANY...

...SO WE'LL DO IT ONLY WITH SOMEONE WHO IS OKAY WITH THAT, THOUGH...

FLAG: SAYAMA TEA

IT WON'T PAY AT ALL... ARE YOU SURE?!

...

BUT I MEAN... YOU KNOW...

CHATTER

CHATTER

...SO THAT THEY CAN AT LEAST GET THE SCENIC PHOTOS THEY WANT.

I'D LIKE TO OPEN UP OUR TEA FARM TO THEM FOR FREE...

WE WANT TO MAKE IT HAPPEN FOR THEM, RIGHT?

I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY THEY'RE CONFUSED... I WAS SURPRISED, TOO...

WE WANT TO MAKE THEM HAPPY, RIGHT?

THE FIRST THING WE HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ARE THE CLIENTS WHO FELL VICTIM TO THIS INCIDENT.

WE CAN'T JUST IGNORE THAT...

You're right.

LIKE YOU SAID, THEY DID CHOOSE THE TEA FARM FOR THEIR SPECIAL OCCASION...

HMM... IF YOU SAY SO...

I WAS SURPRISED WHEN I HEARD HIM SAY THAT...

Sorry...

OKAY, LET'S DO IT!

DEAL!

WOW

OOOHHHH.

FUTABA-CHAN! WE'RE IN CHARGE OF HANDING OUT CANDIES! DON'T FORGET!

OKAY!

OH, MY GOSH ...!!

ISSHIN-KUN DID A GREAT JOB.

YOU CAN ALSO SERVE TEA TO THE PEOPLE WHO CAME TO SEE THE WEDDING.

OKAY!

I HEARD YOU'VE FOUND BUYERS FOR ALL OF THE LEFTOVER TEA GIFT BOXES.

That's awesome!

IT'S BECOME NEWS, RIGHT?

Heartwarming
on the Tea

domoco

Local Tea Farm
oduces a Photo Wedding
in New Green

Tea Farm Photo Wedding

IT'S ALL THANKS TO EVERYONE.

Wow, thank you.

would you like some tea?

I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.

EXCUSE ME.

MY PLEASURE! WE'RE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU HERE...!!

WE HAD GIVEN UP, SO WE'RE SO HAPPY TO GET TO AT LEAST TAKE SOME PHOTOS!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING US TODAY!

You even let us wear these costumes!

IT'S NOT POSSIBLE TO DO THIS FOR FREE, RIGHT?

BUT WHY ARE YOU SO KIND TO US?

CLANK カチャ

...I HOPE...

...TEA CAN BE SOMETHING THAT WILL CONNECT PEOPLE.

THAT'S BECAUSE HE...

SST

THAT'S IT.

I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO HAVE AN UNHAPPY MEMORY ON YOUR WEDDING DAY.

I SAW THE VIDEO! HE'S A GREAT HUSBAND.

THAT'S SO SWEET! I TOTALLY CAN PICTURE HOW HE SHOUTED HIS LOVE FOR YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF A TEA FIELD...

YES, HE IS.

I'M PROUD OF MY HUSBAND.

...IT'S AWKWARD.

WHISTLE ヒュー〜

コソ WHISPER

Hey.

...STOP ACTING SO HARD.

WHILE HE THINKS THAT I'M JUST ACTING...

...I CAN SAY WHAT I'M REALLY THINKING.

SURE!

EXCUSE ME.

MAY I HAVE ONE, TOO?

THANK YOU.

the height gap

差

OH? THIS IS... YABUKITA, ISN'T IT...?

SHE'S TINY...! SHE'S SO CUTE...!

OKUHARUKA?

THAT'S RIGHT! YOU KNOW A LOT.

WHAT?! WOW! YOU CAN TELL? IT'S A NEW KIND OF TEA INVENTED RELATIVELY RECENTLY...

SHINOMI-YA...?

SHINOMIYA-SAN!

ARE YOU IN THE RESTAURANT BUSINESS OR SOME-THING...?

HI, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE OTHER DAY...

WHAT?!

THAT'S THEIR DAUGHTER.

RIGHT. THAT'S SHINOMIYA-EN-SAMA, THE MAJOR BEVERAGE MANUFACTURER.

HEY, JIN. SHINOMIYA MEANS... SHINOMIYA-EN...?

I HEARD ISSHIN TALKED TO THEM.

Are you guys okay?

THEY'RE SPONSORING US?!

WHY IS SHE HERE...?!

AGAIN? WHY DIDN'T YOU KNOW?

THEY'RE OUR COUNTERPART. ALSO, THEY'RE SPONSORING THIS EVENT.

WHAT?

THE TEA GIFT BOXES TOO...

...WHAT?

HE TALKED TO THEM...?

SHE BOUGHT...

...THE TEA GIFT BOXES...?

BUZZ

ISSHIN.

HANANOKI-EN IS QUITE FAMOUS NOW.

THUMP

SO MANY PEOPLE CAME TO SEE THIS.

THUMP

THUMP

ISN'T IT THE TIME?

!!

THUMP

YOU CAN LEAVE IT TO YOUR WIFE.

WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT...?

...WHAT?

...AND SPONSORED YOU.

WE BOUGHT YOUR TEA GIFT BOXES...

...YOU'LL COME TO OUR COMPANY.

AS PROMISED...

10th Cup Isshin's Mind

Smooth

Fresh

Messy

Rough

YOU'LL COME TO OUR COMPANY.

WHAT...?

THIS MEANS ISSHIN-SAN LEAVES...

WHERE IS THIS COMING FROM...?

...HANANOKI-EN...?

YOU HAVEN'T TOLD YOUR WIFE?

...

TMP

ぽん、
tap

...THAT'S WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT YOU.

NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M HIKARI SHINOMIYA.

びく、
FLINCH

CHAKO-SAN. ACTUALLY....

...I'LL TELL HER.

...WHAT HE SAID THE OTHER DAY WAS...

WHAT IS HE GOING TO TELL ME...?

WHAT?

BE-CAUSE...

I'VE GOT THIS.

...ABOUT THIS...?

...THAT'S ALL.

...THAT'S IT.

...AND THEN?

?
WHAT?
WHAT?!
HEY...
WHAT...?!

HUH?!

Yaabuuuk☆

DSH ド
DSH ド
DSH ド
DSH ド
DSH ド

THAT'S IT?!

WAIT... THAT'S IT...?

すSNUb
ん

WHAT?

DSH
DSH
DSH
DSH

WHAT'S HAPPENING?! ISSHIN-SAN'S SAYING HE'S GONNA QUIT HANANOKI-EN!

PHEW

NO, HE'S NOT GONNA QUIT.

...?
YOU DIDN'T HEAR THAT FROM ISSHIN?

THEN, IT'S TRUE?!

HE'S LEAVING ...?!

BUT HE'S LEAVING THE HOUSE.

HE'S GOING TO SHIZUO-KAAAAA?!

Well, he'll be back on weekends.

'CAUSE WE CAN'T MAKE HIM COMMUTE FROM SHIZUOKA EVERY DAY...

SHE REALLY WEARS HER EMOTIONS ON HER SLEEVES.

IS IT BECAUSE... I MADE THE TEA GIFT BOXES...?

WHY...?

...BECAUSE OF ME...

HE HAS TO CHANGE JOBS...

WE BOUGHT YOUR TEA GIFT BOXES...

...AND SPONSORED YOU.

...SHE'S HIS EX, YOU KNOW?

THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN TRYING TO HEADHUNT HIM... ON TOP OF THAT...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IT TOO MUCH.

HIS EX...?

IT'S NOT BECAUSE I'M HIS EX.

SHE...

...IS...

...HIS...

...EX.

HE'S COMING TO MAKE HIS DREAMS COME TRUE.

...DREAMS?

ISSHIN-SAN'S...

FIRST OF ALL, WE'RE PUTTING OUR WORK INTO...

...DEVELOPING PREMIUM BOTTLED TEA.

CHIRAN 知覧

Tea UJI 宇治 UJI

...WHAT DOES SHE MEAN?

WE'RE DEVELOPING SOME PRODUCTS WITH TEMOMI-CHA.

OH, NO...

I CAN'T PROCESS WHAT SHE'S TALKING ABOUT.

We want to add...

...temomi-cha to this.

But it's difficult.

THIS HAS A LOT OF UMAMI SINCE IT'S EXTRACTED AT A LOW TEMPERATURE...

PRE...

HIS Ex.

PREMI-UM...?

HIS Ex.

IT MEANS...

I'VE GOT THIS.

...ISSHIN-SAN TOLD ME THAT AND ASKED HIS EX FOR HELP...

HEY, THAT'S...

はっ GASP

YOU KNOW... THIS IS HIS EX...?

SHE'S REALLY PRETTY...

ALSO, SHE'S SHI-NOMIYA-EN'S DAUGHTER ...?!

I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY ANY-THING...

I DON'T, BUT...

ALSO, I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING BECAUSE I CAUSED THIS ISSUE...!

NO, WAIT. ISSHIN-SAN AND I ARE NOT A MARRIED COUPLE OR IN A RELATIONSHIP IN THE FIRST PLACE...!

POP

NOOO-OOOO.

I CAN'T STAY CALM.

POP

?

Hello.

KEEP RUBBING ?!

...YOU HAVE TO KEEP RUBBING IT AT LEAST SEVEN TO EIGHT HOURS...

AS YOU KNOW, TO MAKE TEMOMI-CHA...

What kind of play is that?!

TRAP ...?!

...TO TRAP THE RARE AND SENSITIVE UMAMI IN A BOTTLE...

YOU CAN ONLY MAKE 300 GRAMS A DAY. WE ARE STUDYING TO FIND A WAY...

GRAB

WHAT IF SHE FINDS OUT YOU'RE NOT A REAL COUPLE.

WHISPER

WHISPER

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

WHISPER

?

OH, I'M SORRY. I DID NOT NOTICE.

EXCUSE ME. IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'S A LITTLE TIRED...

SHINOMIYA-EN WILL COMPLETELY TAKE HIM.

WHAT IF THEY THINK HANANOKI-EN DOESN'T NEED ISSHIN?

THERE ARE MANY OTHER PEOPLE WHO MAKE TEMOMI-CHA...

UMM... WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE MY HUSBAND...?

TURN Back

WHAT?!

...? YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE.

punch ほっ

punch ほっ

punch ほっ

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO HUMBLE.

YOU'VE SEEN THOSE RIGHT NEXT TO HIM, RIGHT?

ISSHIN'S PASSION ABOUT TEA AND THE WAY HE WORKS...

SHE'S ATTACKING ME VERY NATURALLY...

You know?

I ALSO KNOW THAT VERY WELL.

What ?!

MY... MY HUSBAND IS QUIET...

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT TODAY?

BUT... IT SEEMS YOU REALLY HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE HIS WIFE.

I'M GONNA STAY HERE TO SEE YOUR FARM...

YABUKI!

FWIP

OH? I DIDN'T TELL YOU?

WOOOW!

IT HAS A HEART EGG.

OH, IT'S GOOD.

YUP. IT'S CUTE!

I'M GLAD. DO YOU LIKE IT?

I MEAN, WHEN SHE GRILLS THINGS, FOOD GETS HARD.

I JUST GRILLED THEM. CHAKO-SAN DID EVERYTHING ELSE.

I'M SORRY. YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO HELP US MAKE DINNER.

YOU'RE STAYING HERE TO SEE THE TEA FARM IN THE EARLY MORNING?

BY THE WAY, YOU ARE REALLY KEEN.

WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT? HE GETS A STOMACH ACHE SO EASILY WHEN FOOD ISN'T COOKED WELL...

LET ME DO THIS FOR CHAKO-SAN, WHO MADE IT WITH HER HOPE.

I'M JUST DOING WHAT I HAVE TO DO. BECAUSE WE'RE BUYING HAPPY TEA.

I HAVE TO SEE HOW THE TEA LEAVES GROW.

I ALMOST FELL IN LOVE.

THE TEA WAS WONDERFUL.

YOU ARE THE ONE WHO'S WONDERFUL.

SHE'S PRETTY AND ELEGANT.

SHE WORKS HARD.

I WANTED TO TELL HER THAT.

...WHY ISSHIN-SAN WAS IN LOVE WITH HER.

I CAN UNDERSTAND...

...WAS THINKING ABOUT GOING TO SHINOMIYA-EN AT SOME POINT...

THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN TRYING TO HEADHUNT HIM...

MAYBE ISSHIN-SAN...

HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN PURSUING THE SAME DREAM AS HIKARI-SAN.

THAT'S WHY HE MAKES TEMOMI-CHA...

Haah はぁ...

EVERYTHING...

...WAS FOR HER...

Haah

はぁ……

I HOPE THAT'S NOT TRUE...

I CAN STOP HIM IF HE SAYS HE'S DOING IT FOR HANANOKI-EN, THOUGH...

...I MEAN IT ALL MAKES SENSE NOW...

I'M GONNA SLEEP...

RATTLE

ぽす…

TNP

SWEAT
だら
SWEAT
だら
SWEAT
だら
SWEAT
だら
SWEAT
だら

SWP

すぽ

SST

すー

READ BETWEEN THE LINES!!

WHAT ARE YOU DO-

SSHHH!!

SHE'S VERY SKEPTICAL ABOUT US...

HEY, ISSHIN.

SHE WAS WORKING IN THE KITCHEN, SO SHE COULD WATCH US AND FIND OUT IF WE'RE A REAL COUPLE... WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO GO INTO MY ROOM...

WHISPER

WHISPER

WHAT...? WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?!

WHISPER

YOU TWO SEEM SOMEWHAT AWKWARD ...

ERK

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU SINCE THIS MORNING...

...YOU'RE NEWLY MARRIED...

...BUT SLEEP SEPARATE-LY...?

IS ISSHIN IN THERE...?

YES! HE IS! HE'S HERE!

CHAKO-SAN?

FLINCH

WHAT...?! I DON'T UNDERSTAND! SHE'S CHANGED HER PERSONALITY?!

WHISPER

WHISPER

SHE'S THAT KIND OF PERSON...!

YEAH...

WAS IT AT FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING TOMORROW...?

GOOD NIGHT.

...OKAY.

GASP

PHEW

...

CLICK

SST

WALL SCROLL: ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME MEETING.

...YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU WANT TO DO, RIGHT...?

IF YOU GO TO SHINOMIYA-EN...

I JUST WANTED TO...

...MAKE SURE THAT...

I...

I...

THAT'S RIGHT.

BECAUSE I CAN DO WHAT I WANT TO DO THERE.

...OKAY.

GOOD LUCK!

…

11th Cup Ex Alert in Effect

I DON'T WANNA BREAK UP WITH YOU...!

NO, ISSHIN...!

HIKARI.

PARENTS...?! IT'S OUR LIFE...

3:40
ALARM
SNOOZE
STOP
VRRRRH
VRRRRH
BECAUSE I CAN DO WHAT I WANT TO DO THERE.
WE'RE DOING THIS FOR YOU.

HE DIDN'T...

HE REALLY DOESN'T WANT TO HURT HER...

...TELL ME LIKE THAT...

THEY ARE ONLY THREE YEARS OLD.

THE TEA TREES AROUND HERE ARE STILL YOUNG.

RUSTLE

WOW...

IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE HAVING FUN...

CHAKO-SAN, YOU THINK SO TOO, RIGHT?

THIS JUST MAKES ME REALIZE THAT THERE'S A BIG GAP BETWEEN US...

I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME WITH THEM...

I MEAN WE HAD A LOT OF RAIN THIS YEAR, SO THE AMOUNT OF FERTILIZER SHOULD...

OH! ABOUT THE FARM... I'M...

I'M STILL LEARNING...!

OH, OKAY...

THUMP

どきどき

THUMP

THUMP

...

ISSHIN-SAN LOOKS SO WARY AND AFRAID THAT I'LL SAY SOMETHING WRONG...

RIGHT!

THERE IS A GREAT BOOK WE USE FOR EMPLOYEE TRAININGS. I'LL SEND A COPY TO YOU IF YOU'D LIKE.

IT COULD BE USEFUL.

I'LL GO BACK AND PREPARE BREAKFAST.

WHAT A NICE PERSON.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING BECAUSE SHE'S SOMEONE ISSHIN-SAN RELIES ON.

OKAY...

"THANK YOU SO MUCH."

...SHE'S SO OPTIMISTIC.

YOU DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HER. DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME A RIDE TO THE STATION.

DON'T WORRY. IT WASN'T MUCH.

SHE'S WATCHING US TO FIND OUT IF WE'RE A REAL COUPLE.

ISSHIN-SAN TOLD ME THINGS LIKE THAT, SO I WAS REALLY SCARED...

...HIKARI-SAN HAS BEEN KIND TO US...

AFTER ALL...

YES?

HEY, CHAKO-SAN.

...BUT MAYBE ISSHIN-SAN IS JUST IMAGINING THINGS...

FLINCH

I'M SURE YOU DIDN'T LIKE HAVING YOUR HUSBAND'S EX IN THE HOUSE.

SCREEEECH

Are you okay?!

That scared me.

I'M SORRY!

THE LIGHT... THE LIGHT WAS RED...!!

THUMP

THUMP

THUMP

IT WAS TOUGH WHEN WE WERE DATING. MY PARENTS WERE AGAINST OUR RELATIONSHIP...

TH...THAT WAS SO SUDDEN...!

THEY SAID YOU COULDN'T MAKE A LIVING IN MARTIAL ARTS.

WHOOM

THE LIGHT TURNED GREEN SO SUDDENLY...! B-B-B-BY THE WAY...!

I'M SORRY!! I'M SORRY!!

...!!

HE DIDN'T TELL YOU. THAT'S SO HIM.

MARTIAL ARTS?! WHO DID...?!

ISSHIN. HE WAS A PROFESSIONAL MMA FIGHTER.

SERIOUSLY...?!

I KNOW I SHOULDN'T SAY THIS TO YOU...

NOW THAT SHE TOLD ME THAT...

...IT SUDDENLY ALL MAKES SENSE...

...BUT I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP...

...ON HIM.

WOOSH

WOOSH

WOOSH

BAM

OH,
MY GOSH.

...!!

WHAT...
WHAT DO YOU
MEAN...?!

I WAS ONCE
WITH A MAN MY
PARENTS CHOSE
FOR ME.

BUT IT
DIDN'T WORK.

...ISSHIN MEANS SO MUCH TO ME.

IT BECAME CLEARER AS I SPENT TIME WITH MY INNOCENT AND KIND HUSBAND.

TIME DIDN'T HEAL...

...BUT IT MADE ME REALIZE THAT...

I DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT...

...

...SHE'S ATTACKING ME...

YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT MY OLD STORY, DO YOU?

I'M SORRY.

...BUT OBVIOUSLY...

...DID YOU TELL ME THAT...?

WHY...

...I THOUGHT IT WAS KINDA BIZARRE.

WHEN I SAW THE TV...

I WAS WONDERING IF YOU TWO WERE A REAL COUPLE.

EVEN IF YOU HATE ME...

...I'M SORRY, CHAKO-SAN.

...YOU MEAN...

...I DON'T WANT ANY REGRETS.

I DON'T...

...WANT ANY REGRETS.

GRAB

HEY! CHAKO!

YOU'RE TOO EARLY TO PICK UP FUTABA...

OH.

HEALING?

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE HAVING A FIGHT ABOUT ISSHIN GOING TO SHINOMIYA-EN...

TORN

Wow!

WHAT HAPPENED?!

NOTHING... I THOUGHT THE TEA FARM COULD HEAL ME A LITTLE BIT...

Anyway, don't get any closer.

He processes his tea at our factory.

WHY DID YOU THINK I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT?

GLARE

WHY DO YOU KNOW HE'S GOING TO SHINOMIYA-EN?

HEY, HEY. NOT AGAIN.

WHAT?! JUST FOR ONE YEAR?!

IT'S JUST FOR ONE YEAR. IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL.

IT'D BE NICE IF WE COULD HAVE A FIGHT.

WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN YOU GUYS? HAVE YOU BEEN FIGHTING OR SOMETHING?

...A FIGHT.

ALSO, HIS EX IS WAY BETTER THAN ME.

I FELL FOR A SCAM.

WE EVEN DECIDED NOT TO INTERFERE.

WE'RE A FAKE COUPLE.

WHY WOULD HE TELL ME IMPORTANT THINGS?

AFTER ALL...

...HE DOESN'T TRUST ME...

THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU.

WHAT?

GRAB

ガシ

YOUR MOTTO WAS TO TALK ABOUT IMPORTANT THINGS FACE TO FACE.

YOU'RE SCARED OF TALKING TO ISSHIN, AREN'T YOU?

HUH?! WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT?!

Get off of me.)(

...

JUST GO FACE IT.

THE SOONER, THE BETTER.

OKAY?

IN CASE YOU FAIL...

...I'LL ALWAYS BE HERE TO CHEER YOU UP.

THAT'S SUPER NAUGHTY.

FUTABA-CHAN, LET'S MAKE SURE WE'RE NOT GONNA BE NAUGHTY ADULTS LIKE THEM.

COPY THAT!

...

BUT THAT ONLY APPLIES TO A REAL COUPLE...

A CONVER-SATION...

CHAKO. DON'T FORGET WHAT I TOLD YOU.

I ALWAYS END UP GOING BACK THERE.

I...

WE...

I CAN'T STEP IN AT ALL BECAUSE IT'S A FAKE RELATIONSHIP.

AS LONG AS WE KEEP THIS UP...

what?

THE END.

...THEN, MR. BEAR TOLD A LIE AND LEFT...

...TO PROTECT HIS BEST FRIEND, MR. MOUSE.

...

SERIOUS しんけん

SHE'S THINKING. SHE'S THINKING.

SLIDE

BOOK: MR. BEAR AND HIS BEST FRIEND, MR. MOUSE

MR. BEAR WON'T COME BACK?

WELL. I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT.

? ?

TERRIBLE.

MR. BEAR IS...

HE COULD'VE TALKED TO HIM.

OH.

HMMMM.

THIS PICTURE BOOK'S THEME IS SELF-SACRIFICE. HOW SHOULD I EXPLAIN THIS TO HER?

HE MADE MR. MOUSE CRY AND DISAPPEARED...

WHAT?!

くまさんと
しんゆうねずみ

...MR. MOUSE WOULDN'T HAVE CRIED.

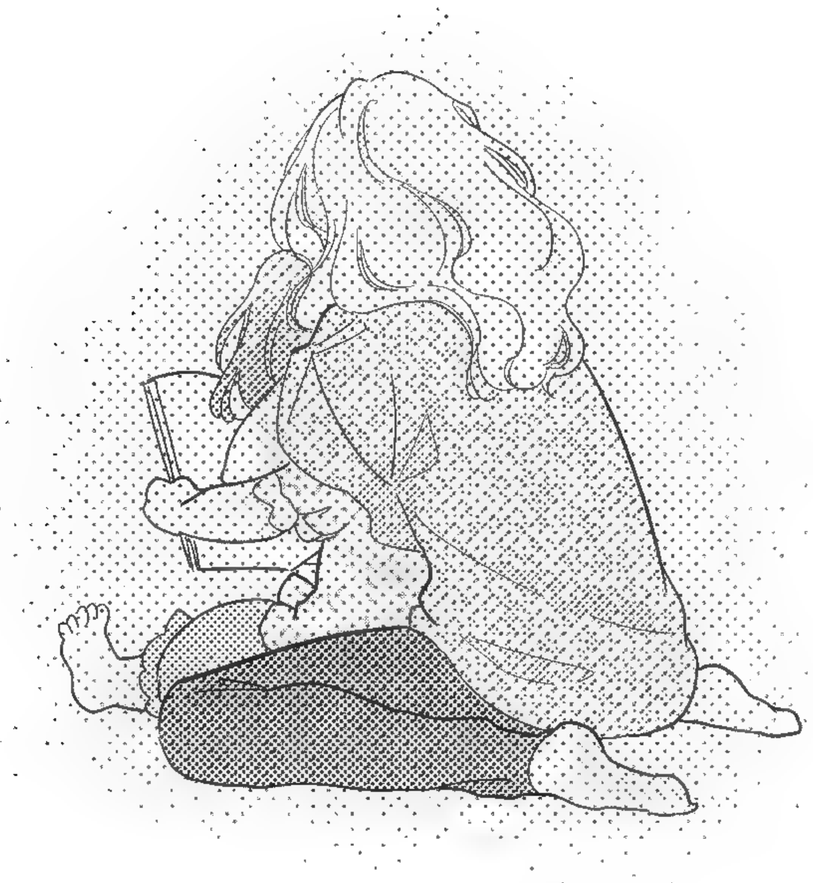
IF HE PROMISED THEY'D ALWAYS BE FRIENDS...

くまさんと
しんゆうねずみ

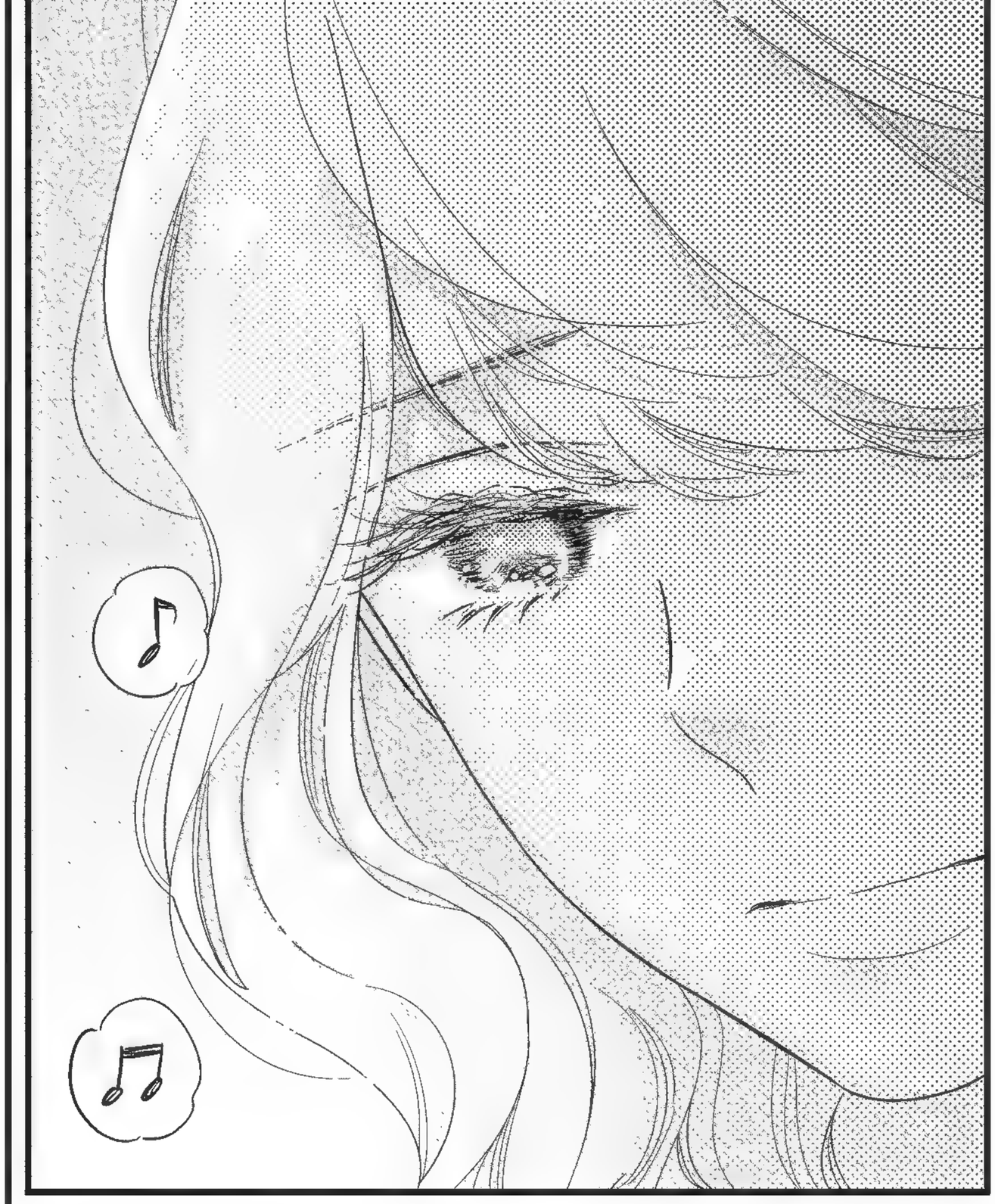
YOU AND ISSHIN...

...DID THAT FOR ME.

CHAKO?



WHY
IS IT?



I KNOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...

...BUT I ALSO FELT LIKE THIS RELATIONSHIP WOULD LAST FOREVER.

HE COULD'VE TALKED TO HIM.

I CAN'T LEAVE THINGS LIKE THIS.

THAT'S WHY I VOWED...

...TO NEVER BOTHER HIM WITH MY EMOTIONS.

くまさんと
しんゆうねずみ

zzz

TCHK
14°
たぁ
…

CLANG

CLANG

CLANG

CLANG

TWITCH

...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

...this late at night...

...WE NEED TO TALK. COULD YOU PLEASE SIT DOWN...?

GLARE

GLINT

FLINCH

RATTLE
カチャ…

…

…I ALSO HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.

12th Cup Last Summer Night

RUMBLE

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ

IF YOU'D LIKE TO START... GO AHEAD...

ISSHIN-SAN...

YOU...CAN... GO FIRST...

NO...

RUMBLE

...

IT'S WEIRD...

WHY DID THIS TURN INTO A DUEL...?

ON TOP OF THAT, HE HAS AN AURA THAT HE'S GONNA BITE...

WHAT IS THIS VIBE...?

BY THE WAY...

NO... DON'T CHICKEN OUT, CHAKO...!

I DID A LOOOT OF MENTAL REHEARSALS, JUST IN CASE SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED, RIGHT...?!

I CAN'T REMEMBER HOW TO HAVE THIS KIND OF CONVERSATION...!

UUGGGHH. COME ON!

TUMBLE

ガバッ

THE LAST TIME...

THIS IS NOT THE RIGHT ATMOSPHERE. HOW CAN I POSSIBLY TELL HIM MY FEELINGS, YOU KNOW...?!

BAM

EEK!

FLINCH

...I WANTED TO HAVE A TALK WITH YOU BEFORE THAT...

IF YOU'RE GONNA...GO THERE...

...? WHAT'S WRONG...?

N-NOTHING...! I'VE GOT A LITTLE BIT OF CHILLS...!

BY THE WAY...!

WHAT? YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL?

...? I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE TODAY.

...?? ABOUT TOMORROW?

I HAVE TO LEAVE VERY EARLY TOMORROW...

NO, I'M NOT SICK.

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT LATER TODAY, EITHER...

THAT WAS JUST POORLY PHRASED...! WITH HIM...

WITH HIM...

HEY! CALM DOWN, CHAKO!

WE'RE TALKING AT CROSS PURPOSES...?!

I CAN'T STAND ANY MORE LIES...!!

I NEED TO BE MORE STRAIGHT-FORWARD...!

TOMOR-ROW...

...I'M REALLY LEAVING EARLY FOR DELIVERY...

?! I'M NOT LYING.

what?

OKAY...

NOW YOU CAN TALK. GO AHEAD...

...YOU CAN DO IT.

I MEAN... WELL...

I THOUGHT...

Where is he looking...?

YOU WANT THE SEASONED RICE?

YOU ARE ASKING IF I CAN MAKE THAT FOR YOUR LUNCH BOX 'CAUSE YOU'RE LEAVING EARLY?

NO, NO. IT'S NOT FOR THE LUNCH BOX...

Seasoned Rice with

The First Tea Harvest of the Year

OKAY...

...I'M GONNA...

...COME BACK... AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...

...

...I MEAN, THIS IS...

THAT'S WHY YOU BOUGHT THAT?

Why the broken Japanese?

? YOU WANT ME TO MAKE IT FOR DINNER?

*SAYAMA IS A CITY OF TEA, AND MARITOZZO IS AN ITALIAN SWEET PASTRY WHICH IS POPULAR IN JAPAN.

UGH... WE GOT OFF TRACK AGAIN.

OH.

HE LIKES SEASONED RICE THAT MUCH...?

...IT'S SO GOOD.

GASP

YOUR TEA HAS A LOT OF SWEETNESS, SO I THOUGHT AN ICE BREW WOULD WORK PERFECTLY...

ガタッ
RATTLE

RIIIGHT ?!

OH, WELL... EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T TODAY, I STILL HAVE OTHER OPPOR-TUNITIES...!

oh... of course, you've tried it before, huh...? I'm sorry...

No, I haven't tried with my tea leaves.

HEY, NOOO!!

I'LL DEFINITELY TALK TO HIM BY THEN!

WE HAVE A LITTLE OVER A MONTH UNTIL ISSHIN-SAN LEAVES FOR SHIZUOKA.

8
Monday
Tuesday
Isshin Shizuoka

SHRUG

GRRR

PUTTER PUTTER

ME...

WHO THE HECK TOLD ME YOU HAVE A STRONG CORE...?

I DON'T WANT YOU TO DESTROY OUR TEA FARM WITH YOUR SMALL MISTAKE...

A BALD SPOT.

I...I JUST FELL A LITTLE BIT...

I WAS PLANNING TO HAVE A TALK DURING WORK IF THERE'S A CHANCE...

BUT NOW...

...PRETTY DIFFICULT. I EASILY LOSE CONTROL OF THE WHEEL BECAUSE OF THE DIRT.

I GET IT... BUT THIS IS...

WHIRRRR

ウィイイイ

THEN, YOU CAN JUST REPORT TO ME EVERY DAY, AND I'LL TELL YOU WHAT TO DO.

Tea plucking shears.

Fertilizer distributor.

FOR NOW, YOU JUST HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO USE THE MACHINES AND THE TOOLS.

IF YOU WEREN'T HERE, WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS SITUATION.

...IF I WEREN'T HERE, WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE WITH THE FARM...?

HERE.

VRRRR

YOU'RE RIGHT...

...BECAUSE IT'S YOU... I CAN LEAVE THIS TO YOU.

SQUEEZE

キュッキュッキュッ

...OH.

FWIP

ピロ

いっ

UUGGGHH!! NOW, I'M JUST GONNA...!!

THUD

HEY.

I...

SIGH

はぁ

FWIP

ピロ

BRRR

BRRR

BRRR

Tap
Tap
Tap
Tap
ABC
DEF
GHI
JKL
MNO
PQRS
TUV
WXYZ
This is quite sudden, but |
BUT...
I FEEL BAD...
I WANT TO TALK ABOUT IMPORTANT THINGS FACE TO FACE, THOUGH...
I GOTTA KEEP IT SIMPLE TO TELL THIS KIND OF THING, RIGHT...?
"I LIKE YOU" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
VRRRH
VRRRH
WHAT...?
WEEELL... UMMM.
HMM... I GUESS THIS WAY IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE A BURDEN FOR HIM.

Chako

Today

Chako unsent a message

Chako unsent a message

Chako unsent a message

Chako unsent a message

WHAT'S WRONG?

SHIVER

I WONDER WHY...

I KNOW, RIGHT...?

MILK PROTEIN
脂肪0 ココア
FAT-FREE COCOA

I CAN TOTALLY RELATE TO THAT, MADAM...

...SAYING SIMPLE THINGS IS GETTING HARDER... AS YOU GET OLDER...

AUNT CHAKO, YOU HAVE TO BE IN THE ROLE MORE! WE'RE PLAYING MADAM ON THE BEACH!

I-I'M SORRY!

WOOW! YAAAY!!

I BROUGHT SOME SWEETS.

okay.

okay.

You're supposed to be a widow.

HERE YOU GO, MADAMS.

YOU LOOK DOWN AGAIN.

1ぎょう SLUGGISH

FUTABA-CHAN, LET'S GO WASH OUR HANDS!

Copy that!

...AND WHERE... DO YOU DO...?

HOW...

HEY...

WHEN YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT IMPORTANT THINGS...

SAWAS MILK PROTEIN

BFFT

IN BED.

IF YOU CAN'T AT HOME, HOW ABOUT AT THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL NEXT WEEK?

THERE MIGHT BE SOME OPPORTUNITIES, RIGHT?

...

I MEAN IT. YOU HAVEN'T TALKED TO ISSHIN YET, HAVE YOU?

I'M SERIOUS!

IF IT'S THAT COMPLICATED, DO YOU WANT ME TO TALK TO HIM?

What?

NO, NO! IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...!

...I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT...

I'LL TRY AT THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL.

SORRY... THANK YOU... PRETTY PATHETIC FOR SOMEONE MY AGE, HUH...?

SIR!

THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL...

I THINK THAT'S...

STOP CALLING ME LIKE THAT.

COULD YOU BRING THE SWEETS HERE?

8

9

10

12

15 Fireworks

16 Isshin Shizuoka

17 ...MY LAST CHANCE...

19

22

23

24

25

26

31

1

CHAKO, YOU CAN'T GO SEE THE FIREWORKS WITH US?!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT'S A PRECIOUS AND RARE FAMILY TIME!

WHISPER

ヒソ

HEY, IT'S MY DOCUMENT, SO I'LL STAY.

ヒソ

WHISPER

ヒソ

WHISPER

ISSHIN-SAN, IT'S YOUR LAST NIGHT, SO PLEASE GO! I'LL JOIN YOU SOON!

THEN I'M GONNA...

DON'T WORRY. I'LL COME ONCE I RECEIVE THE PACKAGE.

THANK YOU...

PHEW...

...A DIVINE MESSAGE THAT I SHOULDN'T TELL HIM, ISN'T IT?

THIS IS...

THUD

IT'S NOW OR NEVER...

...BUT WHY IS IT GOING LIKE THIS AGAIN...?

Fireworks
Isshin Shizuoka

TIME'S UP...

AH...

RIGHT. WHAT IF IT'S SO AWKWARD THAT ISSHIN-SAN WON'T COME BACK TO HANANOKI-EN...?

...I CAN'T RUN AWAY FROM THE HOUSE.

I MEAN, IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST.

EVEN IF I TELL HIM HOW I FEEL, AND IT DOESN'T GO WELL...

AND FOR FUTABA-CHAN, WE ALSO HAVE TO FIX THE RELATIONSHIP TO BE NOT AWKWARD.

I DON'T WANT ANY REGRETS.

CREAK...

I CAN'T STAY TRUE TO MYSELF LIKE THAT...

THE DELIVERY...

FWIP

VRRRR

...BECAUSE MY FEELINGS FOR HIM ARE NOT AS STRONG AS HIKARI-SAN...

SHUT
バタン

...YOU CAN'T WALK TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN, CAN YOU?

...? DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING?

...NO.

HE CAME TO PICK ME UP...?

WE'RE LUCKY IF WE CAN SEE THE FIREWORKS FROM HERE...

THERE WEREN'T ANY SPOTS TO PARK THE CAR.

I DON'T THINK WE CAN JOIN THEM.

...I GUESS THIS IS HOW FAR WE CAN GO.

THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO MAKE A MEMORY WITH FUTABA-CHAN...

...I'M SORRY.

YOU DID, BUT...

HEY... WHY ARE YOU TALKING AS IF THIS WAS THE FINAL DAY...?

I TOLD YOU THAT I WILL COME BACK EVERY WEEK...

...YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE TEA FARM.

I'LL CONTACT YOU EVERY DAY...

YOU...

...DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT I REALLY WORRY ABOUT...!

I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT THAT!

AND, IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, I'LL BE RIGHT OVER THERE...

NO...

GASP?

...LIKE THIS...

I DON'T WANNA TALK...

I WANNA SUPPORT YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART...!

I CAN'T HELP IT.

ISSHIN-SAN... YOU MIGHT...

NO.

...FIND SOMETHING YOU WANNA DO... SOMETHING BETTER THAN WHAT YOU'RE DOING NOW...

BUT I WORRY YOU'LL LEAVE HANANOKI-EN AND IF THAT HAPPENS, I...!!

ヒュルルル FSSSSHHH...

BOOM

CHAKO.

BOOM

PLEASE WAIT FOR ME.

...AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...

I'LL BE BACK...

...AS SOON AS...

...I'LL BE BACK...

...POSSIBLE...

I PROMISE.

I DON'T WANNT TO LIE TO MYSELF ANYMORE...

ISSHIN-SAN... I...

...I LIKE YOU.

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOL. 4

SHINE

SHINE

Bonus Episode Futaba's Diet

...

YOU'RE NOT HUNGRY?

...I DO.

...I AM.

BUT...

FUTABA-CHAN, WHAT'S WRONG...?

YOU LIKE PANCAKES, RIGHT...?

Four years old

I WANNA...

...BE ON A DIET.

TH-THEN, LET'S EAT SOMETHING OTHER THAN PANCAKES! YOU SHOULD EAT SOMETHING, OKAY...?

WHY...? DID SOMEONE TELL YOU SOMETHING...?

SHAKE

SHAKE

HERE.
SAY, AHH...

PLEASE EAT JUST A LITTLE BIT. JUST A BITE, ACTUALLY, YOU'LL GAIN WEIGHT IF YOU DON'T EAT ANYTHING.

...!!

DSH

DSH

DSH

DSH

DSH

THUD

Other than pancakes!!

WHAT'S FUTABA-CHAN'S FAVORITE FOOD?!

WHAT?

Isshin-saaan.

...SHE'S BEEN STAYING IN HER ROOM AND WON'T COME OUT...

WHAT IS IT ALL OF A SUDDEN?

FUTABA-CHAN'S SUDDENLY SAYING SHE WANTS TO BE ON A DIET, AND SHE HASN'T EATEN ANYTHING SINCE THIS MORNING!

ON TOP OF THAT...

HEY, LOOK, FUTABA-CHAN.

THERE ARE SO MANY DELICIOUS THINGS!

NEON

NEON STYLE

...

Futaba, let's go shopping. You'll lose weight.

FWIP

かいはつ

ISSHIN-SAN DID A GREAT JOB TO BRING HER OUT, THOUGH.

THIS ISN'T WORKING...

HELLO.

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

OH, FUTABA-CHAN.

OH, HELLO.

FUTABA-CHAN, IT'S HIROSE-SENSEI FROM THE SWIMMING SCHOOL.

GONE

OH?

FIDGET もじもじ FIDGET

WHAT?

OH?

HEY, FUTABA-CHAN. YOU SHOULD EAT A LOT TO BE A BETTER SWIMMER.

OH. THIS IS...

RIGHT? SENSEI, YOU ALSO EAT A LOT?

YOU JUST JOINED MY CLASS, SO YOU'RE STILL FEELING NERVOUS...?

YOU'RE NOT NERVOUS, ARE YOU? YOU PRACTICE YOUR BREATHING BETWEEN STROKES AT HOME EVERY DAY, RIGHT?

I KNEW IT...

WELL, BECAUSE OF MY WORK I'M CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT I EAT...

I LIKE COOKING MORE THAN EATING...

NO, SENSEI...!!

THAT'S NOT THE ANSWER I WANT...!!

stare

ACTUALLY, I DON'T EAT MUCH. I'M A PICKY EATER.

BUT TO BUILD YOUR MUSCLES...? YOU EAT SOMETHING LIKE MEAT...?!

...I ALWAYS LIKE GIRLS WHO AREN'T PICKY AND EAT A LOT.

I GUESS THAT'S WHY...

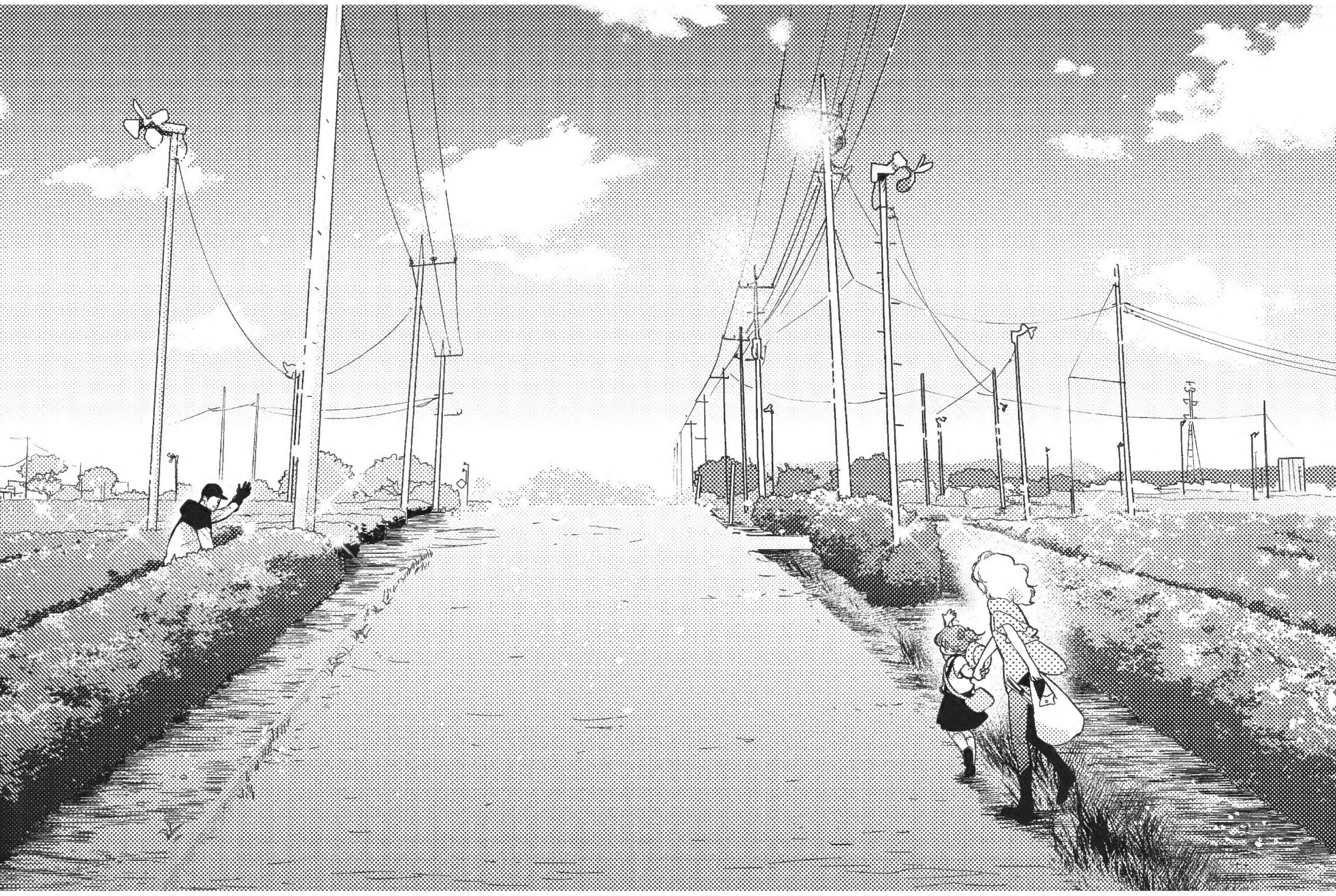
SENSEI...!!

I REALLY LIKE...

...GIRLS LIKE THAT!

JUST LIKE THAT, FUTABA-CHAN'S DIET CAME TO AN END.

GULP
CHEW
GULP
CHEW
MUNCH
MUNCH



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Matcha Made in Heaven 3

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